CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	Image 15
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1001286.000
Medium:	Computer Image File Printout
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not stated
Applicant:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	16 September 2010
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued

Summary of reasons for decision:

The computer image file printout is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children and young persons for sexual purposes.

The printout contains a composite image consisting of 30 individual images on two pages. The majority of the images depict older children and young teenage girls in nude or semi-nude sexualised poses, with several displaying their genitals. Other images show young boys and girls engaged in sexual acts with each other, and two images depict adults involving children in sexual activity. The purpose of the material is to sexually arouse adults with a sexual interest in children or young persons. The availability of this material is likely to encourage this sexual interest and strengthen the idea that young boys and girls may be used for adult sexual gratification. The effect is to encourage the sexual exploitation of children and young persons.

The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention and is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression. The classification reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its young and vulnerable members from sexual exploitation.